

Docket No.: 132662
Serial No.: 10/668,087

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ramgopal DAROLIA et al. : Confirmation No.: 1272
Serial No.: 10/668,087 : Group Art Unit: 1775
Filing Date: September 22, 2003 : Examiner: KOEHLER, Robert R.
: Notice of Allowance August, 24, 2005

For: PROTECTIVE COATING FOR TURBINE ENGINE COMPONENT

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

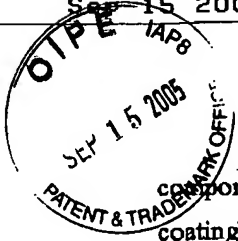
Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance dated August 24, 2005, please enter the following Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

The Reasons for Allowance states on page 3, item (4) that the Examiner believes that Applicants' claims 1 and 14 specifying an electroplating process "wherein the platinum group metals are sequentially deposited, co-deposited using an electroplating step, or deposited using entrapment plating, or combinations thereof" confers "specific electroplated structures" to the claimed protective coatings. It is stated that "sequentially deposited" platinum metals produce at least a two-layered noble metal protective coating; that "co-deposited" platinum metals produce a high-purity platinum metal alloy that is located entirely or mostly on the component surface; and that "entrapment plating" of platinum metals as well as other, minor metals produces a composite protective coating characterized by metal particles within a metal matrix located entirely or mostly on the component surface. It is also suggested on page 3, item (5) that heat treating forms a homogenous noble metal alloy coating.

The above statements are imprecise and place an unwarranted interpretation upon the claims. Such a characterization of the claims does not properly take into account Applicant's claimed invention as reflected in the specification and Applicant's response to the Examiner's Office Action. For example, the claims do not specify, nor does the specification or response state, that the sequentially deposited platinum metals necessarily produce at least a two-layered protective coating; that the co-deposited platinum metals necessarily produce a high-purity platinum alloy located entirely or mostly on the component surface; that entrapment plating of the platinum metals necessarily produces a composite protective coating characterized by metal particles within a metal matrix located entirely or mostly on the



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component surface; or that heat treating of the protective coating necessarily forms a homogenous alloy coating.

Applicants note that the "record as a whole" must be considered as a supplement to the Examiner's stated Reasons for Allowance, and, to the extent that it is clear and complete, it shall control the interpretation of any and all claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

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September 15, 2005



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TO: U.S. Patent Office
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I, Elaine Willig, hereby certify that the below identified correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on September 15, 2005.

Signature: Elaine Willig

Pages being transmitted:

1. Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal (2 pages)
2. Fee Transmittal (1 page)
3. Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (2 pages)

Total No. of Pages including this cover letter: 6

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Filed: 09/22/2003
Inventor: Darolia et al.
Attorney Docket No.: 132662
Notice of Allowance: 08/24/05

COMMENTS: